



*J.P.W.*

**PATENT**  
U.S. Application No. 10/559,826  
Attorney Docket No. 960/197

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of      Yasuhiko OTSUBO, et al.      Confirmation : 3639  
Group Art Unit      :      3748  
Application No.      :      10/559,826  
Examiner      :      Tu Minh NGUYEN  
Filed      :      December 6, 2005  
Docket No.      :      960/197  
For      :      **EXHAUST PURIFYING APPARATUS AND EXHAUST  
PURIFYING METHOD FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION  
ENGINE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Customer Service Window **AMENDMENT**  
Randolph Bldg., 401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable. It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to deposit account 11-0600.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution.

☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

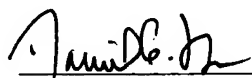
☐ c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached. 37 CFR §1.97(c)(2).

☒ 2. The reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application. A copy of the Chinese Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 19, 2007

By:



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